



State of Connecticut
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
STATE CAPITOL
HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT 06106-1591

REPRESENTATIVE JUAN CANDELARIA
NINETY FIFTH ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

300 CAPITOL AVE STE 1804
HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT 06106

CAPITOL: 860-240-8585
TOLL FREE: 1-800-842-8267
FAX: 860-240-0206
E-MAIL: Juan.Candelaria@cga.ct.gov

DEPUTY MAJORITY WHIP

VICE CHAIRMAN
HIGHER EDUCATION COMMITTEE

MEMBER
APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE
SELECT COMMITTEE ON CHILDREN

Testimony by Representative Juan Candelaria
95th District New Haven
Labor and Public Employees Committee
March 3, 2011

~~Raised Bill~~ 984 An Act Concerning The Enhancement Of Services At The Labor Department.

Senator Prague, Representative Zalaski, and distinguished members of the Labor and Public Employees Committee, I am pleased to testify in support of Raised Bill 984, An Act Concerning The Enhancement Of Services At The Labor Department.

As you are aware, I submitted House Bill 5913 *An Act Concerning Transitioning From Temporary To Permanent Employment And Employee Background Checks, which is not a part of raise bill 984.*

I am particularly interested in ensuring that we include a provision in this bill to protect individuals from discriminatory practices on the basis of past criminal history or credit history provided such employee had worked for the employer as a temporary employee for a period of one or more years.

There are many professionals, skilled workers and ordinary people who have been convicted of felonies, but who have gotten back on their feet to find work and get their lives back in order. Many have found new opportunities through a temporary agency or temporary assignments where they have received excellent reviews and have been offered a permanent position as a result.

Some have worked for nearly a year without incidents of any kind. Unfortunately, at the time of a final offer by their employer, they have been denied permanent employment because of a blemish on their record, which in many cases, happened several years in the past.

Many of these individuals are young men and women looking to provide a new life and a new opportunity for themselves and their families.

They should not be denied a new chance to start over and stay on the right path due to something that happened several years ago, and especially when they have proven to be reliable, ready and capable of keeping their job.

I thank you in advance for your consideration to this important issue.